



Committed Support

FFN stands for Family, Friend, and Neighbor, and includes anyone caring for young children outside the formal early learning programs: grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors, siblings, and parents.

380,000 estimated young children are not in formal early learning programs in Washington State

This means that they rely on FFN care. CCR is committed to ensuring that support and resources are available to children, families, and caregivers outside of licensed care programs.

FFN care is most often found among communities of color, immigrant and refugee families, families with lower incomes, and those caring for children with special needs. Families choose FFN care for many reasons: flexibility, affordability, cultural connection, and of course, trust.

CCR is a national leader in supporting FFN caregivers, placing a heavy focus on creating authentic partnerships with BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color)-led organizations. As a result, the FFN team has been asked by organizations across the United States to provide consultation and expertise for FFN-centered programs and policy – especially when it comes to applying a racial equity lens.

Currently, the FFN team is working closely with [Child Care Aware](#) of Washington to expand resources and support to caregivers and communities across the state.

2021-2022

Family, Friend, & Neighbor Program Impact Report

Kaleidoscope Play & Learn Groups

Kaleidoscope Play & Learn (KPL) groups are play groups facilitated by community based organizations, schools, libraries, early learning programs, and other family serving agencies. KPL groups are made up of FFN caregivers, parents and children in their care. Each facilitator is highly trained and has connections to and an understanding of the cultural community of its participants.

Now that pandemic restrictions are easing up in Washington state, FFN caregivers have been eager to meet in-person again. KPL groups have begun the transition from virtual to in-person spaces. Groups offer a safe place for caregivers to bring up concerns and get support with the pandemic's impacts on children's social and emotional development, as the pandemic impacted children's ability to socialize outside of the home. We continue to share COVID-19 prevention information, supplies, and resources with caregivers through our network of KPL groups.



79 new KPL facilitators were trained last year

Xin chào

habari

12 different languages used to facilitate KPL groups



FFN SPOTLIGHT

Brothers & Sisters Program

The Brothers & Sisters Program is a program specifically designed for the middle- and high-school aged youth who take care of their younger siblings, cousins, nieces/nephews, and other young children while the children's parents go to school or to work. These youth are often overlooked as caregivers, but make amazing contributions to the happy and healthy development of the children in their families.

The program helps inform these caregivers on the importance of child safety, as well as self-care and mindfulness for the caregivers themselves. CCR is currently working to expand this program even further, having recently received a grant from the Boeing Company to enhance the program's evaluation and curriculum.

In a survey following training sessions for Brothers & Sisters Program, 100% of participants...



Said they will use what they learned to change the way they care for young children



Agreed that they know more now about how children develop



Agreed that they feel more prepared to handle an emergency involving a child in their care



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My children have been attending the Play and Learn with First Five Years and Beyond since the pandemic started, and it has kept both of them engaged.

My son is autistic and my daughter has a speech delay, and through this program, they were able to detect it early and help me find speech therapy during the pandemic. She now attends an early intervention program and we see tremendous progress.

Olayinka

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Shoreline parent using FFN services, testifying before the
Washington State Senate on February 21, 2022